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THE EARLY SETTLERS IN GARRETT COUNTY

By MRS. T. C. HINEBAUGH

(Reprinted from The Oakland (Md.) Republican

In 1872, by an Act of the Legislature, Allegany county was divided and the extreme western part was called Garrett county, in honor of John W. Garrett, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

I have always considered the name singularly appropriate, for Garrett county is, figuratively speaking, the attic of the State, located as it is high in the Allegheny Mountains—literally at the top. It is in this attic I desire to rummage in the effort to rescue from oblivion some of the names of the real pioneers and relate a few incidents attending the settling of this part of our State.

Someone has said that "Maryland is only a rim of shore, a shell of mountain, but all gold." There have been many gibes cast at us from some of the more highly favored counties, which we have managed, somehow, to survive, and notwithstanding our isolation we have rubbed elbows with many of the great and near-great.

William Ashby The First Settler

The first permanent settler in this part of Maryland was William Ashby, who with a company of wayfarers, seeking new lands to conquer, was forced by illness to spend a winter in an old Indian fort on or near the present site of Gortner. While the company with whom he was journeying went on to their destination, William Ashby remained to become a permanent land holder in this State.

The ancient castle of Ashby in Leisectershire, England, is first mentioned as Asebi in the time of Edward the Confessor. When the Doomsday survey was made, the castle was held by Hugh, under Countess Judith, to whom it was presented by her uncle, William the Conqueror. During the reign of Henry III, David of Asebi was lord of the manor, but forfeited his land in the reign of King John for adherence to the barons. However, his lands were restored by Henry III in 1217. For 600 years the Ashbys have been famous in literature, politics and military service. The men have been courageous; the women, as wives of pioneers, have not been less so, although the lives of pioneer women have been tragic beyond belief.

Historically the Ashby family is interesting from David, lord of the manor, to William, the obscure pioneer, and General Turner Ashby, the brilliant Southern cavalryman, who was instantly killed leading the Fifty-eighth Virginia Regiment into battle near Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Colonel Isaac McCarty

Colonel Isaac McCarty, who was a descendant of Patrick McCarty, of Tyrone County, Ireland, married Anne Devecmon, and settled on the tract of land immediately South of Oakland, known as the Totten Farm. He also owned part, if not all, the land where Oakland now stands, and in 1829 organized the first Sunday school which met in the home of George Loar, paternal ancestor of Miss Lottie Loar, our esteemed Civic Club president.

The newly re-dedicated Methodist church on Oak street in Oakland is an offspring of this first Sunday school.

During the thirty years of Isaac McCarty's life at "Yough Glades" he

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was the leader in the commercial, social and religious life of the community.

In 1851, when the B. & O. R. R., the first system in America, was finished to this point, Colonel McCarty proceeded to lay out the town. And I presume it was at this time the euphonious name of "Slabtown" and "Yough Glades," by which it was known, was discarded for the more appropriate one of "Oakland."

About this time occurred the tragic death of Dr. Conn, whose office was diagonally across from the Davis home, occupied at that time by Cornelius Johnson, who in a jealous rage shot the doctor as he was entering his office. I have heard members of the two preceding generations say that Mrs. Johnson was a superlatively beautiful woman. There was a trial, at least in form, but nothing was ever done with Johnson.

Major George DeCalmes

Colonel McCarty's nearest neighbor was Major George DeCalmes, an early settler from Virginia. Marquis DeCalmes was born in 1705, A Huguenot nobleman who came to this country to escape religious persecution in his native land. He married Winifred Waller, of Williamsburg, Virginia.

DeCalmes planted the first vineyard in America and called his home in Clark county, Virginia, "Vineyard Plantation." He was vestryman of the old log church, which was rebuilt of stone in 1780. One of his grandsons, Marquis DeCalmes was a general in the Revolutionary War and fought with great distinction at Yorktown, and also served in the War of 1812. He was an intimate friend of General Lafayette. But at the close of his military career he migrated to Woodford Co., Kentucky. His three sons were Marquis, Fielding and our George DeCalmes, who some time before 1800 bought the point of land opposite Cumberland, where Ridgeley now stands, and built his home. This is the historic site of the Ohio Company's warehouse, built in 1794, as a depot for trade with the Ohio Valley.

George DeCalmes came into possession of the tract of land, "Peace and Plenty," near Deer Park, containing 1500 acres, which at his death was inherited by the Perry heirs of Cumberland. Here lie the old iron anchors of Commodore Perry's ship of Lake Erie fame.

The marriage in 1813 of Mary DeCalmes to John Hoye, of Cumberland, illustrates the fact that the Potomac River belongs to Maryland. Upon securing his marriage license the prospective groom crossed the river to the DeCalmes home. When the minister saw the Maryland license that could not be used in Virginia, the wedding party went to the river, stepped into a boat tied to the Virginia shore, and here the ceremony was performed.

The Beverly Road started at "Summer Retreat," George DeCalmes' summer home, crossed Malott's Glade and traversing what is now Mountain Lake Park, crossed the Yough at Ruckel's Ford, now the Weber greenhouse property, then on to Thompson's and Chisholm's Mill, intersecting the old Northwestern Turnpike at the Red House.

It was near Thompson's that Upton Bruce, scion of a time-honored race, seeking seclusion from marital troubles, settled and lived the life of a hermit until death claimed him. The writer saw him once standing before his one-room shack, which was scarcely higher than his head, a strikingly handsome man with hair and beard as white as snow.

In 1800, with the exception of the Boyle settlement, Oakland retained its primitive setting of swamp, alder thickets and oak forest.

Lord Baltimore's Lands

While William Armstrong was the first permanent settler in the Oakland

community, a man named Boyle had lived at the crossing some sixteen years before. The entire region was known to the Proprietor of Maryland and his agents and was included in Lord Baltimore's Manor, surveyed in 1765 by Francis Deakins, who for thirty-five years was closely identified with the land history and western boundary of Maryland. His lordship's manor began at the junction of the Little Yough River and extended east to the foot of Savage Mountain and south to the Red House, an area of 17,750 acres of the beautiful glade country which Baltimore had planned on reserving for himself.

His agent wanted a representative on the new manor to keep off squatters until regular tenants could be secured. But seven years after this survey had been made the Revolutionary War began. Lord Baltimore's lands were confiscated by the State, and in 1787 his great manor was included in the survey of fifty-acre lots for the Maryland soldiers of that war.

An Indian Massacre

At this time the Indians were complaining to the State authorities about the white people settling on the west side of the mountains, although relations between the few settlers and the natives were friendly. A private quarrel caused the extermination of the first settlers of Oakland. After the French and Indian War the Malott family settled on the Nathan Casteel farm east of Oakland. There was an Indian squaw living with the family, which seems to have been resented by her people. At all events, one day a party of warriors appeared at the cabin. The squaw, who was in the woods at the time, escaped, but when the enraged Indians left nothing remained of the Malott family but their scalped bodies stretched on the cabin floor. Days after some of the Friends from down the Yough came and buried the victims near a spring in the rear of the Willoughby Harrison brick house, where the Malott cabin stood.

The Armstrongs

William Armstrong, the first permanent settler at Yough Glades, was only fourteen years old when he was commissioned ensign in Captain Bratton's company, the Seventh Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line. At the close of the Revolutionary war he went to Clarksburg and clerked in Peter Devecmon's store. In 1800 he married Hannah Devecmon, widow of his employer, and was the first postmaster at Yough Glades that served a wide area for many years. In 1844 Thomas Haddon Armstrong married Maria Hoye. They resided on the "Veronica the Nun" tract, now the John T. Mitchell farm. In 1857 they sold out and made the six weeks' trip, by wagon, to Iowa, and later to Knox county, Missouri. John Maxwell Armstrong married Anne Townshend.

The history of the Armstrong clan is long and stormy. Siward—the armstrong—earl of Northumberland, first of the name, was the last of the great Anglo-Danish earls and had royal blood in his veins. Under Edward the Confessor, Siward, as one of the chiefs, went into Scotland where he killed Macbeth in battle and restored Malcolm to the throne of his ancestors. In the play of Macbeth his son is called Young Siward, who was slain by Macbeth in the battle of Dunsinmore. Siward's second son succeeded to the earldom and his daughter married King David the First of Scotland. In "Border Exploits" and in Sir Waltar Scott's "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border," the Armstrongs play an important part—their deeds of daring are the theme of many a song and story.

Thomas Armstrong, fifth lord of Maingertown, in the fifteenth century, had four sons, one of whom, John of Gilnockie, was ancestor of the Armstrongs. Edward Armstrong was

known as Edward from the Border, and his wife, Elizabeth, was called Princess of the Great House of Moguirie. They had three sons, John and Francis, who emigrated to Pennsylvania, and James, who succeeded his father to the Irish estates. He had two sons, Maxwell and William. James Armstrong died in 1762 and his widow married Thomas Haddon. William grew up in his stepfather's home in the Shenandoah Valley. This William was the pioneer settler at "Yough Glades" in 1806.

Peter Devecmon (Pierre D'Evecquemont), a French emigrant, said to have been a second cousin to the King of France—at least he was one of the nobility—came from France as a refugee during the French Revolution. But he was listed as a settler on State land west of Fort Cumberland in 1787. Thomas, the historian, says Devecmon was at one time the most extensive land owner in Allegany county. Peter Devecmon had six children, of whom George was grandfather of Thomas Devecmon, one of the most brilliant lawyers in Maryland.

The Townshends

Members of this group of pioneers were of Norman-Saxon origin, having come from England in 1620.

Walter DeHavill, one of the generals of William the Conqueror, was granted as part of the spoils of the conquest, large estates in the neighborhood of Norfolk. He married a Saxon princess, Mathilde, through whose influence the name was translated into the equivalent Townshend, or townholder, the suffix "hend" being abbreviated from the Saxon verb henden—to hold, the family name thus becoming Townshend—a number of towns being located on the family estates in both Normandy and England.

In England the late Marquis of London, Raynham County, Norfolk, retained the "h" in their name, but generally the modern spelling without the "h" is used.

The pioneers of the family were Richard, of Jamestown, Va., 1620; William, of Boston, Mass., 1634; John Henry and Richard, of New York, in 1712; Samuel, who was born in London in 1714, and came to Prince George's county Md., in 1736. His son Leonard Townshend, married Sarah E. Young, in 1789. Their only heir was Singleton, early settler, in Allegany county, who married Catherine Belt, of Frederick, and settled at what is now Hoyes. They are the grandparents of the present generation residing with us.

Leonard Townshend an early merchant of Oakland, married Tabitha Hoye, whose only descendants are living in the City of Washington.

The Dranes Came In 1800

The Dranes also came from England. James Drane, the first permanent settler at Accident, was born in Prince George's county, Maryland, in 1779. He was commissioned second lieutenant in the Ninth Battalion of his county, and married Priscilla Lamar, a descendant of Marion Duvall, a French Huguenot, as was also her father, Thomas Lamar.

Accident was a wild country in 1800. It was near the bear dens and a favorite resort of the animals, because of the towering rocks filled with crevasses on both sides of the stream that bears their name.

William Drane, who died at the age of ninety-four in Phoenix, Arizona, used to tell of a ferocious bear that came from the woods one day when the men were absent. His mother, Priscilla, shot the animal and a colored woman finished it with an axe.

In those days the Dranes' nearest neighbors were William Waller Hoye, at Crab Tree Bottom; Meshack Browning, the pioneer hunter, and later the McHenrys. George Washington Drane married Eliza Hoye in 1821. They

went to Missouri. Marien Drane married Mary Ann Hoye in 1824. It is his daughter Maria Lamar Drane, of McHenry, by his second wife, who is the last of her race in this region in this year of our Lord 1936.

When Lord Baltimore colonized St. Mary's county he wrote his cousin Sir James Anthony Drane to come over and join his colony. But Sir James, being advanced in years, replied that he was too old to embark on so hazardous an enterprise, but was sending his nine sons, who in due time arrived and settled in Upper Marlboro, in Prince Goerge's county, Md.

The Ridgeley Family

Eli Ridgeley came from a family famous in Colonial and State history. Born in Frederick county, he was an early settler on the "Shawnee War" tract, three miles south of Grantsville on the old road from Grantsville to Bittinger. This land had been surveyed for Paul Hoye in 1774. The Indian name which Paul Hoye gave to this tract refers to the war then in progress between the Virginia Colonists under Governor Dunmore and the Shawnee Indians and their allies under Chief Cornstalk. The original "Shawnee War" tract occupies the top of Ridgeley Hill. Its elevation of 2617 feet commands a magnificent view of Negro Mountain, Manadier Ridge and the valley north.

The Ridgeley plantation furnished in abundance food for the family, slaves and stock, besides tobacco that was taken to market over the old National Pike.

Eli Ridgeley's only son William, who had married Catherine Hoye, died soon after his father, and the management of the plantation fell upon the two unmarried sisters, Isabell and Rebecca, who in addition to the management of the farm, raised five children of their deceased sister, Mrs Bevan.

William Rideley's only son, John Hoye Ridgeley, left college to enlist in a company of infantry at the beginning of the Civil War. When peace came he returned to Heidelberg, where he graduated, and two years after was admitted to the bar. He settled in Tiffin, Ohio, where he was elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas. No member of the bar was held in higher esteem than Judge Ridgeley.

The Hoyes

The ancestors of the American Hoyes came from County Antrim—Protestant Ulster—about 1620. Paul Hoye settled in Prince George's county. His son James married Tabitha Marbury. She was a granddaughter of Thomas Greene, who came to Maryland in the "Ark" in 1634 with Leonard Calvert and succeeded him as second governor of the Colony. James Hoye died soon after the birth of his son Paul, and in 1739 his widow married William Deakins. Paul Hoye grew up in the Deakins home in Bladensburg with his three half-brothers. They all served as officers in the Revolutionary War. And later Paul Hoye was identified with the land history of Western Maryland and Virginia. Paul Hoye, of "Frog Harbor" plantation, near Williamsport, came here in 1765, after marrying Miriam Waller, of Stafford, Virginia. They had four children—Anne; John, a prominent business man of Cumberland, who married Mary DeCalmes, and at his death owned more than 50,000 acres of land in Western Maryland and Virginia.

William Waller, of "Crab Tree Bottom," and Elizabeth, or Betty, as she was more familiarly known, whose broken romance ending in tragedy, furnished the only authentic story of a haunted house in this community.

In the little valley of Ginseng Run, in Western Maryland, on the farm of Harrison Friend, that used to be called the "Betty Hoye Place," was an old abandoned log house which the children of the neighborhood never tired

of exploring, delighting in all the shivery anticipations of adventure when they approached those gaping windows of the old house with its air of desolation that seems to belong to places with a tragical history, and which no doubt had given the community all those wierd fancies and ghostly stories that had been circulated far and near. Tales of cries and moans of agony that issued from those desolate rooms, particularly on dark and stormy nights when the wind rattled the detached and decaying timbers of the old house and the huge pines and hemlocks that sheltered the place sang their requiems. It required no stretch of the imagination to see sometning sinister where the shadows were deepest, which often resulted in a sudden stampede for the vicinity of home.

At the close of the Revolutionary War, Paul Hoye, a veteran officer of that conflict, retired to his plantation, "Frog Harbor," near Williamsport, Md. His daughter Elizabeth, or Betty, had inherited her share of her father's Scotch-English ancestry from which came her violet eyes, her fair complexion, her tall lithe figure and her determination. From the old English Wallers came her raven hair and her willfulness. When a young girl of twenty years she accompanied her father to Georgetown, then a place of importance at the head of navigation on the Potomac. Betty had longed to visit her aunt, Elinor Deakins, which would give her an opportunity of mingling with the exclusive and polished society of the old town. A number of days had passed in the alluring pleasures of shopping and balls. When seated one day at her window, which commanded an extensive view of the river, Betty saw a trim English merchantman slowly make its way up stream to an anchorage below the Deakins' home. For a long time the girl pondered the mission of the ship —from what lands had it come? The nature of its cargo, what manner of men on board? While the war which had engendered so much bitterness had not passed from the minds of British or Americans, the merchants of Georgetown were anxious to restore amicable trade relations with the mother country, and being pleased to have received their goods in safety from the ship anchored in their midst, they gave a ball in honor of the officers. And the Deakins family, with their guests, were among those invited. The captain of the vessel, a tall, attractive man, entertained Betty with glamorous tales of London life; of the strange manners and customs in the various ports they had visited, of the enchantment of life at sea when everything familiar has passed from view and nothing but that vast expanse of water that seems to journey with you. Even storms at sea were told with fascinating detail until the girl's mind became a medley of all that was desirable lay in a life on the ocean wave. A few days later Betty, with her aunt, were members of a teaparty on shipboard where the gallant captain gave the girl his undivided attention and asked permission to call at their home.

But when Betty's father was informed of the captain's attentions to his daughter, he voiced his disapproval in no uncertain terms. "Be very careful, my daughter. Even if this redcoat's intentions are honorable, what would you be in England? A sailor's wife among strangers who have no interest in you; while he roams the seven seas and loves a different woman in every port. See him tomorrow when he calls, but never again." A vexed and tearful girl met the captain the following day under her aunt's supervision and delivered her father's ultimatum. "Perhaps we can find a way," he whispered as he bade them good night.

The next afternoon as Betty strolled listlessly in her aunt's grounds a colored boy stealthily approached and

handed the girl a note. "Meet me tonight when the clock strikes twelve, by the willow tree on the river's bank."

At twelve o'clock a radiant and happy girl stood at the appointed place and scarcely had the clock ceased striking when the keel of a boat touched the shore. Extending his hand, the captain assisted Betty into the boat and silently they drifted down stream. Then taking the oars he rowed into a secluded cove of Rock Creek where with the accessories of moonlight and mist the old, old story was retold and arrangements completed for sailing the next night. "Meet me again tomorrow night and we will sail away to England where interference cannot reach us," was his parting injunction.

Secretly Betty prepared for the final rendezvous. But her aunt becoming suspicious, warned her father, who patroled the house. At the appointed time a boat reached the shore, and Betty, attired in traveling dress and carrying a suitcase started across the lawn, walking straight into the arms —not of an expected lover—but an outraged father, who demanded an explanation of such madness. Bitter words and tears were unavailing. The girl would not listen to reason and the father was forced to imprison Betty in her room, where the hours were passed in agony of spirit. There was despair at dawn when she beheld the white sails of her lover's ship unfurled—saw the vessel, which she would never see again, drop slowly down stream on the ebbing tide. In the meantime, her father was hastening their departure. He placed the girl with her maid in their coach and ordered Tom to drive home without delay.

When they reached "Frog Harbor" Betty went to her room where she remained many days. Her spirit crushed, she seemed to be ever struggling to follow the white sails of a slowly disappearing ship.

Thirty darkened years passed away. Betty had never spoken to her father again—seldom to anyone. The mother died. Five years later the father passed away and the plantation was sold. Betty was taken, with her slaves, to a home in the mountains her brother John had prepared for her. Many more years passed away . . . The neighbors told their children and grandchildren stories of queer Aunt Betty—of the haunted house—how she had tortured her slaves to hear them shriek by pincing them with hot fire-tongs. And they said she had even killed the little black boy who waited on her. She would clip the tongs to scare away witches, and when she went out she would don a huge sunbonnet to preserve the fairness of her face, as it was to the day of her death at eighty-one.

Now that the old house with its sheltering trees has disappeared, I hope that the perturbed spirit of poor little Betty Hoye has found an abiding place somewhere.

The McHenrys

The McHenrys came from County Antrim in Ireland, where they had been settled at Ballymena for many generations and where Daniel McHenry was a merchant. His son James was sent on a voyage to the Colonies for his health which had failed from a too close application to his studies. Being less than twenty years of age he was placed under the care of Captain Allison, of Philadelphia, whose stepdaughter, Margaret Caldwell, he eventually married and took up the study of medicine under the tutorage of the famous Dr. Benjamin Rush, who was a friend of General Washington, and it was possibly through Dr. Rush that McHenry formed that association with Washington that so profoundly influenced his life. He was appointed surgeon in the army and served two years as Washington's secretary. Later he was on General Lafayette's staff until his resignation in 1781.

During the later part of his administration, President Washington appointed him Secretary of War and when Adams became president McHenry was continued in office. It was during Adams' administration that diplomatic relations with France were broken and as Secretary of War it became McHenry's duty to prepare for the national defense, so he frequently advised with his friend Alexander Hamilton, who was the recognized head of the Federalist party, for which Adams severely reprimanded McHenry and he immediately resigned.

McHenry's health was very poor after his resignation from the cabinet and he had been spending his summers at Berkeley Springs or with his close friend, Colonel Lynn, who had a summer home at "Wild Cherry Tree Meadows." But Dr. McHenry's health failed so rapidly that he passed away in 1816 at his suburban home near Baltimore.

John McHenry, a nephew of Dr. McHenry, was a lawyer and a scholar who had filled important diplomatic posts at the Hague and other European capitals. After his uncle's death, he moved to Buffalo Marsh, where he built a comfortable log house. Book cases lined the walls of his library—the first in this region. Mrs. McHenry had a private road cut through the woods to Crab Tree Bottom so she could visit Mrs. Hoye without traveling the public highway. When she was ready to pay a visit a colored boy went in advance to see that no presuming rattlers disturbed her ladyship. Martha McHenry died at Buffalo Marsh. It is said her husband used to sit at his window for hours looking out upon her grave in the orchard, where he, too, was destined to lie soon. Nothing but a couple of slight depressions mark their last resting place.

James Dorsey, a faithful slave belonging to William Waller Hoye, married Susan, a free woman, who had traveled much with Mrs. McHenry in foreign countries. She was an uncommon colored woman. When John McHenry freed his slaves many remained with him. But when they were emancipated most of them flocked to cities and towns. Jim and Susan, however, remained in the Glades. Trey were buried in the old McHenry plot, the last of their kind in this region.

Daniel Grant

Daniel Grant, an early settler of Grantsville, in whose honor the town was named, was an inn keeper of Baltimore, and owned the Fountain Inn, where on several occasions George Washington stopped. Grant owned "Cornucopia," that fertile tract of land that is divided by the old Braddock road on which Grantsville is located. In 1796 the Grants left Baltimore to reside on "Cornucopia."

Tomlinson's first inn on the old Braddock road was called the "Red House." Afterwards he built the stone house, still standing on the National Highway twenty-one miles west of Cumberland.

Early Communication Methods

Outside of one or two apologies for roads, the only means of communicating with neighbors was over trails by horseback or by walking. I have been told that perpetual twilght reigned in the deep forests, the gloom intensified by heavy draperies of Spanish moss. All of which, with the trees, have disappeared except a small conservation at Swallow Falls to remind one of the forest primeval. A CCC camp has done much to make accessible by paths the many glens, cliffs and falls within its boundaries.

Eagle Rock is the highest point of the Allegheny Mountains in Maryland. Allegheny Heights and Table Rock afford a panoramic view of mountains as far as the eye can reach.

Fort Pendleton, a Federal camp of 1861-65, is twelve miles from Oakland, located on the Northwestern Turnpike,

that during the Civil War was the thoroughfare between the North and South. It is 3300 feet above tidewater.

Abundance of Game in Early Days

To illustrate the abundance of game at that period, Meshack Browning, pioneer hunter, left his cabin one morning to take a little hunt. At nine o'clock he was eating breakfast in his home, having in the meantime secured two bears, one deer and wild turkey. Why a mountain trout or two were not included in this bouquet of game I do not know, as every stream and streamlet swarmed with these most delectable of all fish.

The reverse of this picture, taken from Meshack's life: Another time he started for a hunt and not finding any game, kept walking until he reached Meadow Mountain, a favorite resort for bear, fifteen miles away. As usual he wore no hat and a heavy rain followed by snow, did not add to his comfort. Deciding to return home, he traveled for some time before discovering that he was walking in a circle, but thinking he could get through a certain laurel thicket before dark, he would reach his cabin some time in the night, but coming to his tracks the third time, it dawned upon him how hopelessly confused he was and the only thing to do was to find a hollow tree in which to spend the night.

Coming to one that had fallen across another, he pulled off the bark and succeeded in constructing a rough shelter. As night closed down on the cold and dripping forest Meshack stood looking out on the desolate picture, but had seen too much of nature in her trying moods to be dismayed, and taking his dog for a pillow he lay down and slept until morning.

The beautiful Deep Creek Lake, belonging to the Youghiogheny Hydro-Electric Company, covers the glade between Meadow Mountain and Roman Nose Mountain, the scene of so many of Meshack's exploits and conflicts with bears and panthers.

The Thayer Family

Richard Thayer the second, son of Richard Theeyr the first came to America with Governor Winthrop's colony in 1630, from Baintree, Essex county, England, and settled in the Baintree "Quincy", in the Colony of Massachusetts. The family name is of Saxon origin.

Abel Thayer, in 1775, organized a body of Minute Men, and at the first alarm set out for Lexington. He was commissioned captain and served throughout the Revolutionary War except during the time he was a prisoner in the British hulks on the Jersey Flats, where thousands of brave Americans perished.

In 1817 Stephen Thayer, with his family, left Northampton, Massachusetts, and after a journey lasting from December to late February, reached Allegany county, Maryland, where he settled at Selbysport with the Selbys, Jamisons, Ewards and others. Selbysport is the oldest settlement in Garrett county.

The Thayer Memorial School is located at Quincy, Mass., founded by General Nathaniel Thayer, who was governor of West Point for a number of years.

The West and Fairall Families

Sir Thomas West, an English knight, was the emigrant ancestor of the West family of Garrett county. He was sent to Virginia by Queen Elizabeth as treasurer of that Colony.

Dying on the voyage, he was succeeded by his two sons, John, who inherited the title, and Charles. Joseph West came to Prince George's county from Virginia. He married Sarah Hilleary and lived at "Locust Grove," in Frederick county.

Captain Truman West, grandson of Joseph West, was born in 1800, and married Susanna Johnson, cousin of the first Governor Thomas Johnson of Maryland. They settled in a part of Allegany county, which is now Gar-

rett county, in 1832, near Accident, and called their home Woodland Farm.

Captain Truman West was a first cousin of Governor Francis Thomas, who owned a farm at Frankville, in Garrett county.

Governor Thomas was sent as ambassador to Peru and on his return brought the first Peruvian sheep to Garrett county. It was at the governor's hermit-like home that his friend, General Lew Wallace, wrote part of "Ben Hur," completing the work as a guest at the old Glades Hotel in Oakland, owned and operated by John Daily, father-in-law of the late General George Crook.

The death of Alexander Fairall at his home in Swanton, removed from the ranks of the pioneer settlers of Garrett county one of their most conspicuous figures. He was born in 1830 and was educated in Charles county, Maryland.

Just before the Civil War he married Elinor West, eldest daughter of Captain Truman West of Woodland Farm. When the war closed he located in Swanton, where he accepted the several positions of store-keeper, agent for the B. & O. R. R. Co., express agent, postmaster and general shipping agent for the numerous saw mills in the vicinity, and in all the complicated accounts of his stewardship his integrity was never questioned.

The Fairalls are of English-Irish descent. Two Fairall brothers fought in the Revolutionary War.

Benjamin Fairall, who married Miss Iglehart, of Prince George's county, was a large slave owner and tobacco planter. His son Richard Iglehart Fairall, married Sarah Anne Taggart, of Moorefield, Va. The father objected to the marriage on account of religious differences and as the wedding could not be solemnized in Virginia, the ceremony was performed on the bridge that spans the Potomac at Moorefield. They came to Garrett—then Allegany county—in 1830.

Of the large family, the five sisters were locally famous for their beauty.

Martha married Richard West; Mary married Dr. Welfley, of Grantsville; Rachel married Dr. Mortimer Carr, of Cumberland; Harriett married Dr. E. H. Bartlett, of Havana, a graduate of Yale Medical University, and brother-in-law of Dr. St. Felix Collardeau, who succeeded Dr. Conn in Oakland. Dr. Bartlett remained in Oakland following his marriage and died here a number of years ago.

Of course no record of Garrett county would be complete without a reference to Dr. J. Lee McComas, who located here in the late fifties and spent his life in the greatest service a man can render to his fellowman—healing the sick—and became one of the eminent physicians of his time.

The Lynn Brothers

Among the prominent early settlers of Allegany county were the Lynn brothers. Their father, David Lynn, came from Dublin in 1717. He became Judge of the Frederick county court and was one of the three commissioners appointed to lay out Georgetown.

David Lynn, Jr., who married Mary Galloway, served as an officer through the entire period of the Revolutionary War and was mustered out as captain of the Fourth Maryland Regiment. He was a resident of Cumberland but owned extensive land grants in what is now Garrett county.

Colonel John Lynn was born in Frederick and was enrolled in the patriot army. After several promotions, he was wounded at the battle of Eutaw Springs. At the close of the war he settled in Cumberland where he became the first clerk of the court in 1781, which he held until his death in 1794, at the home of his friend, Dr. McHenry. His wife was Elinor Edelyn. In 1794, when President Washington was in Cumberland, he wrote in his diary: "Major Lynn of the Maryland Line, an old Continental officer

to whose home I was conducted and where I was lodged and civilly entertained."

John Lewis—or Louis—said to have originated in France, was born in Ireland in 1678 and married Margaret Lynn. He killed his landlord and fled to America. The inscription on his tombstone at Bellefont, Va., tells his story:

"Here lie the remains of John Lewis, who slew the Irish lord; settled Augusta county; located the town of Staunton and furnished five sons to fight the battles of the American Revolution. He was the son of Andrew Lewis and Mary Calhoun and was born in Donegal County, Ireland, in 1678, and died in Virginia in 1762. He was a brave man, a true patriot and a firm friend of liberty."

One of his seven children was General Andrew Lewis, born in Ireland in 1720, and settled in Augusta county in 1754. He was twice wounded in the battle of Fort Necessity under Washington, by whom he was appointed major. Lewis commanded the Sandy Creek expedition; was in Braddock's defeat and defeated the Shawnees in 1774, at the great battle of Point Pleasant on the Ohio.

General Robert Lewis settled in Gloucester county, Virginia. His grandson, Major John Lewis, married Frances Fielding, and their son, Col. Fielding Lewis, married in 1746 Catherine Washington, a cousin of General Washington, and when a widower married Betty, sister of Washington.

William, son of Colonel Robert Lewis, of Belvoir, was a captain in the State Line during the Revolution and married Lucy Merriwether. One of their sons, Merriwether Lewis, private secretary of President Jefferson, who appointed him in 1803 to command what is known in history as the Lewis-Clarke Expedition up the Missouri River and across the country to the Pacific Ocean. Soon after his return he was made Governor of Louisiana. On a trip to Washington he committed suicide. Henry Lewis, son of Philip Lewis, was living in the "Glade Hundred in 1800, now Garrett county, on the present Reams farm near Swallow Falls.

Sometime before the death of Colonel Lynn or his friend and neighbor, Mr. Campbell, who lived on a farm adjoining "Wild Cherry Tree Meadows," the home of Colonel Lynn, they made the request that at their deaths they be buried with their feet touching, so that at the Resurrection they could sit up and exchange greetings. But interfering relatives decreed otherwise, for in after years Colonel Lynn's remains were disinterred and removed to Frederick, Md.

This story was told me by Mr. Jesse Glotfelty, whose farm in pioneer days belonged to Meshack Browning and also adjoined Colonel Lynn's "Wild Cherry Tree Meadows."

Mr. Glotfelty had a well developed sense of humor and a fund of quaint reminiscences of other days, which delighted him to relate. It is my regret that I made no notes of what he told.

That entire community is abundantly supplied with the most magnificent springs of ice-cold water. Among them was a huge boiling spring in which white sand bubbled up continually and was very deep. That particular spring has since been covered by an arm of the Deep Creek Lake.

Some years ago a number of gentlemen from Pittsburgh and Morgantown had a small lake and club house on Deep Creek where they used to come for week-ends to fish. One of the number told me there were no fewer than eighteen or twenty fresh water springs that fed that little lake—the native element of the speckled trout. A gentleman from Morgantown caught a twenty-one inch specimen.

The Daily Family

In 1858, John Daily, whose daughter

Mary married General George Crook, succeeded Perry Lysle in the management of the first hotel in Oakland, called "The Glades." After the close of the War Between the States, David Belasco, who was summering here, trained Mrs. Leslie Carter for her role in "The Heart of Maryland." She claimed that the mountains were a perpetual inspiration to her in her work.

Deer Park, the pet place of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, and the most popular resort in its day on the mountains, had among its many celebrities President Benjamin Harrison and his family, including Baby McKee. President Cleveland spent his honeymoon in one of the cottages on the grounds and several times afterward came hither to fish in Delawder dam on Deep Creek, where "Gus" Delawder, as host, left nothing to be desired in a culinary manner.

William H. Tower was prominently identified with the history of Garrett county as the first Clerk of the Circuit Court from 1872 until his death in 1887. He married Rebecca Totten, a daughter of Ezekiel Totten. His son, Edward Z. Tower, succeeded his father as clerk and at the following election in 1887 was selected clerk which office he held until his death in 1932.

Friends, The Largest Family

The Friend family, the most numerous and among the first to settle in Garrett county, are of English ancestry.

Nicholas Friend, of Weymouth, is their ancestor. He had five sons and five daughters, all born in England between 1650 and 1675. Andrew, son of Nicholas II, was an Indian fighter and captain in the Revolutionary War, who settled at Confluence and later moved to Point Pleasant, on the Ohio River.

Charles Friend, with whom Washington stayed over night in 1784 at Murley's Glade, near Oakland.

John, born in 1732, known as "Old John," founder of Friendsville.

Mountain Lake Park

In 1882, Mountain Lake Park was chartered by the Maryland General Assembly, the chief persons concerned being Major Coleman Alderson, of Wheeling, West Va.; Dr. Marden, pastor of the Fourth Street Methodist Church of Wheeling, and Dr. Ryan, a Methodist clergyman. Its purpose was to erect a religious summer recort, Deer Park and Oakland having been very popular summer resorts for many years.

The tract of 800 acres, part of the Hoye estate, leaves nothing to be desired in the way of location, air and water, being 10 per cent pure.

The Park was surveyed by Robert Woods, from Wheeling, assisted by J. Frank Burley and James A. Enlow. The streets and lots were platted by Henry Artus, J. Lee Phillips and J. A. Enlow, employed by Mr. Faul, of Baltimore.

Mr. Artus was an Austrian nobleman, who having lost his fortune, came to America to recoup his losses. He was a most distinguished looking gentleman, and after spending the winter with us, went to Chicago. Shortly after he left a letter came to us from his sister, the Countess of Erhenhausen in Styria, imploring us to be kind to her brother who was so far from his home. Three years after another letter came from the Countess, thanking us for writing and saying she knew we would be interested in learning that her brother had at last arrived home in time to see his old parents before they passed away. She gave us an interesting summary of her brother's life and said he was a count in one of the oldest families in Austria.

Of course we never have understood just why the three original founders of Mountain Lake Park concluded to form an association by taking in Dr. Charles W. Baldwin, who, I believe, is the only survivor; Dr. John Goucher,

Mr. VanMeter, Mr. Conner, of Wheeling; Rev. John M. Davis, of Oakland, and Rev. Benjamin Ison, also of Oakland.

During Dr. Wilbur Davidson's connection with Mountain Lake Park, as manager of the Mountain Chautauqua, every known celebrity of the country has been on their programs, which were enjoyed by hundreds of people from everywhere.

"Loch Lynn," across the railroad from Mountain Lake Park, was named for the old Stuart estate in Scotland.

Mrs. Coleman Alderson, daughter of Governor Price, of West Virginia, was a lineal descendant of the House of Stuart. The fine hotel that once adorned the high point at Loch Lynn, was destroyed by fire some years ago.

We have no century-old boxwood gardens, famous throughout Southern Maryland and Virginia, but we have the enduring beauty of the everlasting hills that no floods can reach and no tornadoes have hitherto marred. Good roads intersect this part of the State, where at every turn panoramic views meet the eye, making d driving here and in contiguous counties a perpetual delight.

The Chisholms

The Chisholms can be traced back from the present day for seven centuries through an unbroken descent in Scotland, Malcolm, the historian, says they came to Scotland from Tindale, England in 1066. The earliest document is a bull of Pope Alexander IV, in which John deChisholm is named in the year 1254.

William Chisholm, Sr., the immediate ancestor of the Chisholms of Maryland, was born in Strathdeam, Parish of May, Inverness-shire, Scotland, in 1747, and came to the United States in 1822 and settled in Preston county, West Va., near the Garrett county (Md.), border. The old estate is near the Oakland-Aurora turnpike, close to the old Chisholm's Mill and stone house erected at the State line by his grandson, James, son of Alexander Chisholm.

The Masons

The Masons were English and settled at an early date in Virginia. Later some of them located on Cheat River, near Albright, and from there came Peter Mason about 1850 and settled in Snowy Creek Glades, near Hutton. He died in 1870.

His son, Jarvis McClure Mason, married Mary Ann Chisholm. They were the parents of Alexander C. Mason, born in 1848, who had been a surveyor for sixty years. He was elected first county survey or Garrett county and was the best informed man on land survevys in the county. His death occurred in May, 1936.

Very few citizens of the present day can remember, and many of the younger generation may doubht this historical fact that only three generations ago scions of the best families from Frederick, St. Mary's, Prince George's, Montgomery and other old counties in Maryland, migrated into what is now Garrett county, bringing their slaves with them to raise tobacco.

My grandfather, William Waller Hoye, had five daughters who married pioneers. Two married Dranes; one an Armstrong; one a Townshend and one William Ridgeley.

Paul Hoye, who came to Prince George's county in 1690, was my great-grandfather three generations removed.

Thomas Johnson, First Governor of Maryland

Thomas Johnson, as first Governor of Maryland, is of special interest to us because of long service to the State and nation, and for the additional reason that he became owner of vast tracts of land in which ns now Garrett county, on part of which two of his sons became early settlers.

The Johnson ancestry is traced to

James Johnson of the old English city of Yarmouth, of which he was one of the two bailiffs in 1570. His son Thomas Johnson I, in 1625, was a member of the famous "Short Parliament."

Thomas Jonhnson II, during the Great Rebellion, was a captain in the Paliamentary forces, but after the execution of Charles I he became a royalist. His son James was knighted by Charles II.

Thomas Johnson III, son of the captain, married Mary Baker, a ward in chancery, without the consent of the Lord High Chancellor, which constituted a high misdemeanor, punishable by a heavy fine and imprisonment as a contempt of court. Johnson, with his bride, fled from England and arrived in the Chesapeake Bay in 1690 and settled in Calvert county. He soon became involved in Colonial politics, espousing the cause of King James against William of Orange. He was arrested and brought before the council and required to give bail. Skipping his bail he fled to the Indians, with whom he trafficked in furs. Some years later he embarked for England with a lot of fine furs and a quantity of gold, but the vessel on which he had taken passage was captured by the Spaniards and those on board robbed and imprisoned.

Johnson finally escaped and landed in Canada, destitute. He walked all the way to Maryland, there to find his cabin burned by the Indians, his wife dead from anxiety and grief. Weakened by exposure and exhaustion, he died soon after his return to Maryland.

Thomas Johnson IV was born in 1702, only son of the immigrant, was left an orphan at the age of twelve. He was fed and clothed by friends and given a good education. At twenty-three he married Dorothy Sedgewick, of Calvert county. Shortly after his marriage he was sent as a delegate from Cecil county to the Maryland Assembly, and was reelected from year to year until about the time of the birth of his distinguished son and namesake.

Thomas Johnson V was born in 1732, the year which is memorable as the date of birth of the immortal George Washington. He was the fifth in a family of twelve children and was sent early to Annapolis to earn his living, and upon his arrival at the capital he was given employment in the land office. Deciding to study law, he was in due time admitted to the bar.

At the age of twenty-nine, Thomas Johnson took his seat as a delegate from Anne Arundel county in the Provincial Assembly of Maryland, starting a career in public life which covered a period of thirty years—a career which for length, versatility and importance of service is unparalleled in the annals of the State.

He was a leader among those who espoused the cause of American independence. As a member of the Continental Congress he nominated Washton for commander-in-chief of the army; he commanded the Maryland "Flying Camp" in 1777, and was that same year chosen governor of the State, serving three years.

Thomas Johnson's wife was Anne, daughter of Judge Jennings, of Annapolis. His son Joshua settled in Garrett county in 1836 on what is now the Johnson farm on the National Highway, east of Grantsville.

Baker Johnson, a brother of the governor, commanded Maryland troops during the Revolution.

Joshua Johnson surveyed and patented large tracts of land west of Fort Cumberland.

Joshua Johnson, another brother, was father of Louisa C., who became the wife of President John Quincy Adams.

Indian Paths and Trails

I have said that the only means of communicating with neighbors was over trails by horseback or walking.

The Indians had many paths through the woods. They were good, but only two or three feet wide, and of course streams had to be waded. Some of these paths are famous in history.

The rivers soon had canoe-ferries. Colonists in Virginia and Maryland tried to build their homes on the banks of rivers and bays where they could travel by boats.

In Pennsylvania, Ohio and Western Virginia pack horses were long used. Five hundred were counted at one time in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, going towards the west. As the roads were somewhat better in Pennsylvania than in other provinces, the use of wagons increased.

Stage Coach Days

During the Revolutionary War nearly all the horses and wagons used by the army came from that colony. There was developed in Pennsylvania the Conestoga Wagon—"the finest wagon the world has ever known." They came into use about 1760. A peculiar curve in the bottom made it specially fitted for traversing mountain roads, and for a long time was the highest type of a commodious freight earrier in this or in any other country. The body was painted a bright blue and the side boards a vivid red. The wagon bodies were arched over with six or eight bows of which the middle ones were the lowest; the others rose gradually to the front and rear, while over all was stretched a strong white hempen cover. The horses, from four to seven in number, were genrally magnificent matched specimens. Sometimes from twenty to a hundred of these wagons would follow in a row.

On the old turnpikes great numbers were constantly passing. "We grow retrospectively sentimental over the delights, aesthetic and physical, of ancient stage-coach days."

The first stage coach ran from Philadelphia to New York in 1766, and primitive as it was had been named "the flying machine."

But the poetry of all traveling expedients lay in that beautiful and perfect expression of natural wild life, the birch-bark canoe. As Longfellow expressed it—

"The forest's life was in it,
All its mystery and magic,
All the lightness of the birch tree,
All the toughness of the cedar,
All the larches supple sinews,
And it floated on the river
Like a yellow leaf in autumn."

The middle of the century saw the beginning of the end of coaching days in all the states that had been colonies, and in order to exist at all, the old stage coach had to lumber across the plains and over the Rocky Mountains to a revivication in the far West.

Acknowledgment is made of the use of some material in this brief history of some material compiled by Mr. Charles E. Hoye.

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